26th March 1954]

SRI C. KANDASAMY :—" I think that the policy of the Government is to extend and increase the facilities in the various hospitals. That being so, may I know the reason for effecting a reduction in the Nagapatnam hospital and for lowering the status of that hospital? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Bed strength has not been reduced, Sir. The Director of Medical Services has said that there is no need for posting a Civil Surgeon at that hospital. So we have posted an Assistant Surgeon there."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, may I know what determines the status of hospitals? " 10 40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The bed strength, the staff, the equipment, the accommodation—all these things determine the status of a hospital." (Laughter.)

Hostel for the students of the Law College, Madras.

* 401 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state why a hostel for the students of the Law College, Madras, has not been opened so far?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The question is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister please tell the House the efforts made by the Government so far in this direction? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, we examined the possibility of utilising the Coxcheri building for the purpose of a hostel, but it was found unsuitable. Therefore, it was given up and then a proposal was put forward to put up new buildings, but I thought that in view of the separation of Andhra State, further building programme may be stopped, meanwhile watching the progress of some of the people leaving the City."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, this question had been under the consideration of the Government for the last so many years and yet the Government have found it difficult to open the hostel and implement the promise made on the floor of this House. I would like to know, if the Government find it difficult to open a hostel in the next academic year, whether they would reserve a few seats in the hostels in the City for the Law College students? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There are other students also who require hostel accommodation. If we reserve some of the seats for the Law College students, to that extent the other students would be driven away. As a matter of fact, the Law College students are aged enough to take better care of themselves."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, I am surprised at the answer given by the Hon. Minister for Education. Even since the days when I was a student of the Law College, some 20 years back, the

agitation has been going on the part of the students urging the necessity for a hostel for them, will the Government be pleased to reduce the rent in the Coxcheri buildings, so that students may be tempted to occupy that hostel?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do agree that because of the 20 years' agitation, it has become a chronic problem. The Coxcheri building was found unsuitable for the occupation of students, apart from the question of rent. That is why we have given it up. We are trying to provide alternate accommodation for this purpose."

SRI C. KANDASAMY :—" ஸார், நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஒரு வக்கீலாக இருப்பதால், அவரும் அந்த சட்டக் கல்லூரியில் படித்திருப்பார் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். ஆகவே, சட்டக் கல்லூரியில் பயிலும் மாணவர்களுடைய நன்மைக்காக ஒரு ஹாஸ்டல் ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்கள் முயற்சி செய்வார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, I was a student and I was able to get accommodation in some hostel and I suppose that even now certain number of the students are getting accommodation in the University Club and other hostels. But the problem is to accommodate all the students in a hostel. We are trying to find out some private bungalows where we can start the hostel."

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH :—" Sir, May I know how many Government Colleges in the City of Madras are without a hostel?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Sir, I welcome the announcement by the Hon. Minister that further building programmes are suspended in view of the separation of the Andhra State. But will the Hon. Minister state whether there is any proposal by the University to construct hostels on co-operative basis?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, even though this does not come under the main question, I may say, I have heard of such a proposal."

Opening of a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar.

* 403 *Q.*—SRI A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Indian Central Coconut Committee, Ernakulam, sent any scheme to Government in April 1952 to start a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The scheme was considered by Government as a Part II Scheme for 1952–53 but was deferred in view of the difficult financial position of the State."